

State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument
Monument Circle
at Market and North Meridian Streets
Indianapolis
Marion County
Indiana

HABS No. IND-61
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY HABS No. IND-61
STATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT

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Location: Monument Circle at Market and North Meridian Streets, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana

Present Owner: State of Indiana

Statement of Significance: The monument commemorates the Mexican, Civil, and Spanish-American Wars with the ebullient national spirit of the late nineteenth century. Its architectural style is Classical, populated by sculptured figures which tell the story of war and peace. The monument is situated at the focal point of the original Alexander Ralston city plan for Indianapolis.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Dates of erection: 1888-1901 (Ernestine Bradford Rose, The Circle, The Center of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, 1971, p. 46; Frederick Baumann, letter to J. F. Gookins, 24 Mar. 1888; "Quarterly Report", 18 Mar. 1901.)
2. Architects: Bruno Schmitz of Berlin, Prussia, was supervising architect; Frederick Baumann of Chicago was deputy architect.

Daggett and Company, architects, prepared plans and specifications for plaza improvement and supervised it ("Quarterly Report," 15 June 1897).

Louis H. Gibson was architect for the rebuilt (larger) cascade foundations ("Quarterly Report of Board of Regents to Governor", 15 June 1899).

3. Original and subsequent owners:

1816 Indiana entered the Union under a Federal Enabling Act which included a donation to the state of four sections of land as the site for a capital (Rose, The Circle, p. 1). The location of the four sections was not specified.

1820 The present location for the city was selected lying near the confluence of Fall Creek and the White River (Rose, The Circle, p. 2).

1821 Alexander Ralston designed the plan of the city. He placed its one-mile square area at the center of the four donated sections, and at the center of this

one-mile square area he set aside a circular plot of ground for the governor's house (Rose, The Circle, pp. 2, 3, 5). Christopher Harrison, one of the three commissioners appointed to lay out the town, hired Elias Fordham and Alexander Ralston as surveyors. Ralston is generally credited with creating the plan (Edward A. Leary, Indianapolis, The Story of a City, Indianapolis and New York, 1970, pp. 11-12). The circular plot on which the Monument is built is therefore state property by virtue of the city plan.

4. Builder or contractor, suppliers: Superintendent of the works: Thomas McIntosh of Greencastle ("Quarterly Report of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission," quarter ending 31 Mar. 1889.)

Foundation contractor: Enos Hege, Indianapolis (Rose, The Circle, p. 46).

Contractor for superstructure: Terre Haut Stone Works Co. ("Quarterly Report..." March 31, 18889, pp. 2-3; "Second Quarterly Report State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission," 1 July 1889, p. 1).

Contractor for Monument Plaza improvement and for tunnels, subchambers and conduits: F.M. Snyder & Co. ("Quarterly Report", 19 Jan. 1897, p. 3; "Quarterly Report", 15 Dec. 1897, p. 3).

Sculpture, "War" and "Peace" groups: Bruno Schmitz contracted to complete them and Rudolf Schwarz, a German sculptor, executed them ("Quarterly Report", Jan. 19, 1897, p. 3; Rose, The Circle, p. 53).

Public lavatories and closets on west side of crypt: Wilcox and Judd of Indianapolis ("Quarterly Report", June 15, 1897).

Elevator: Hale Electric Elevator Co. of Chicago (Hale Electric Elevator Co., bill submitted 29 May 1894).

Contractor for re-built (larger) cascades: Conrad Bender (Rose, The Circle, p. 50).

Installer of pumping machine for cascades: Louis Koss, Indianapolis (Ross, The Circle, p. 51).

Sculptor of Army Astragal: Nicolaus Geiger of Germany (Rose, The Circle, p. 51).

Sculptor of Navy Astragal; of top astragal bearing Civil War dates; of "Victory", the crowning figure of the monument: George W. Brewster, Cleveland, Ohio (Rose, The Circle, p. 51).

Artisans for Navy astragal: Bureau Brothers, Philadelphia 16.
(Bureau Bros., Philadelphia, letter dated 23 July 1894).

5. Original plan and construction:

Competition:

The Indiana Legislature in 1887 appropriated \$200,000 for the Monument, appointed a Monument Commission, and designated Circle Park for the site (Rose, The Circle, p. 44). An architectural competition was instituted in which architects or artisans were asked to include with their entries estimates of cost and a statement of their fee. A first place award of \$1000 and a second place award of \$500 could be given. All estimates had to be tested before adoption. Indiana stone was suggested for the material, or granite or marble, as necessary. The successful architect was required to guarantee everything and give a \$10,000 bond. The architect whose plan was chosen would be the supervising architect, and his fee was limited to 5%. (Legal transcript of "Construction of Monument Act of 1887").

The first meeting of the Monument Commission took place on 28 June 1887, James F. Gookins, an Indianapolis artist, was chosen secretary and George J. Lingsdale of Greencastle was elected president (Rose, The Circle, p. 44). In the State Archives there are letters of recommendation for Gookins from John W. Root and Frederick Baumann, both architects in Chicago, and from several other people.

A board of experts was established to advise in the judging of competition entries. Rose lists them (The Circle, p. 44) as John L. Campbell of Wabash College, Prof. William R. Ware, architect, School of Mines, Columbia College, N.Y.; and General Thomas A. Morris, Indianapolis. The State Archives has Ware's letter of acceptance (William R. Ware, letter to J.F. Gookins, 28 July 1887); James W. McLaughlin, architect, of Cincinnati (James W. McLaughlin, letter to J.F. Gookins, 29 July 1887); and Bauer of Bauer & Hill, Chicago (Bauer, letter to J.F. Gookins, 28 July 1887) all of whose letters -- except Ware's -- arrived too late for consideration. There is also a letter from Richard M. Hunt, architect, New York, stating that he could not accept the position as an expert (Richard M. Hunt, letter to J.F. Gookins, 1 Aug. 1887).

The instructions to the Competitors, dated July 1887, describe three acceptable classes of designs -- a Memorial Hall, a Monument, or a Monument and Memorial Hall combined (Office of Board of Commissioners of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, "Instructions to Competitors," July 1887).

Ten architectural firms were given special invitations to compete (Rose, The Circle, p. 45). Letters from them are of interest. Frederick Baumann had many questions on the compe-

tition program (Frederick Baumann, letters to J.F. Gookins, 24 July 1887 and 4 Sept. 1887). Adolf Scherrer acknowledged his special invitation to the competition (Adolf Scherrer, letter to J.F. Gookins 31 Aug. 1887). In a letter signed Burnham and Root in Root's handwriting -- matching that of the 22 June 1887 recommendation of Gookins -- Root declines for his firm "because committees in charge never can be induced to make agreements to insure justice to the competing architects." Root goes on to say that a board of experts is "a long step in advance," but that he was concerned that the decision of the experts could be overridden by the "untrained committee." Root thought that Professor Ware was the only real expert on the committee, and he stated his opinion. He also feared that the Board of Commissioners might exert their influence, and he went on to describe the problems of architectural competitions as then set up and his concern for reforming the practices followed in public competitions (Burnham and Root, letter to J.F. Gookins, 27 Aug. 1887).

Other architects wrote in September and October to request information about the competition. Some of them were: Vonnegut and Bohn of Indianapolis; Leo C. Staub, Omaha, who noted his unsuccessful design for the Garfield Monument in Cleveland; Beman and Parmentier, Chicago; and E.E. Myers of Detroit, Michigan, architect of the Texas capitol. Their letters are in the State Archives. J.C. Cochrane of Chicago admonished Gookins for failing to invite him to submit an entry (J.C. Cochrane, letter to J.F. Gookins, 27 Sept. 1887). There are also letters in the archives from many materials suppliers, such as the Chicago Pressed Brick Company and several granite companies who wrote requesting information about the competition.

The final date for receiving competition entries was 12 Jan. 1888. By that time seventy had been received. Two were chosen unanimously by the commissioners, the entires of Bruno Schmitz of Berlin and Percy G. Stone of London. Schmitz was awarded first prize, coming to Indianapolis in February to receive his appointment as supervising architect. Stone was given second prize, and Frederick Baumann of Chicago was appointed deputy architect (Rose, The Circle, p. 46). There are extensive detailed reports in the Archives attesting to Baumann's diligent discharge of his responsibilities.

Construction up to time of completion of the stone shaft:

Baumann wrote Gookins on 27 March 1888 that the drawings for the Monument foundation were completed and that specifications were in rough draft in case changes were required. He would be in Indianapolis "On Tuesday morning" (Frederick Baumann, letter to J.F. Gookins, 24 March 1888). The contract for foundation work was awarded in May 1888 to Enos Hege of

Indianapolis, and this work was completed by the end of the year (Rose, The Circle, p. 46; "Final Report on Construction and Completion of State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and Improvements on Monument Place," Oct. 1901). The practice of a separate contract for foundation construction was customary in Indianapolis at this period.

The specifications for completion of the monument superstructure -- "the main shaft and appendices" -- are dated 30 January 1889. They call for the material to be best quality oolithic lime-stone, except as noted, from Indiana. Grey granite could be used instead for the steps. The bed joints of the lower fifty feet of the monument were to be 1/16 inch thick and the rest 1/4 inch. Lime-and-sand mortar was required. Iron clamps "bathed in liquified asphaltum: were to be let flush into the bed of stone and their ends secured by means of molten sulfur. The shaft was to have dowels. At exterior foundations the mortar was to be one part Louisville cement to two parts sand. For the main platform, 20 inch 64 lb/ft. steel beams were called for with cast iron frames. Floor concrete was to be Dykerhoff Portland cement concrete, one part cement to two parts "torpedo gravel." All iron work was to be galvanically coated with copper, 24 hour immersion ("Specifications for Completion of Main Shaft and Appendices," 30 January 1889, pp. 2-5).

On 5 Feb. 1889 the contract for constructing the Monument superstructure was signed with Terre Haut Stoneworks Co. for \$139,600. The company had incidentally, purchased for \$40 the roof that had been previously built over the foundation for winter protection ("Quarterly Report", 31 March 1889, p. 2; Construction Contract with Terre Haut Stone Works Co. dated 30 Jan. 1889).

Financial problems occurred almost immediately. On 12 March 1889, the Board of Commissioners had to ask the Monumental Committee, Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, for a loan of funds in order to prosecute the work, because the state treasury was broke. The loan was granted. Thomas McIntosh of Greencastle was elected superintendent to represent the Board as an expert in stonework ("Quarterly Report", 31 March 1889, pp. 2-3). He began his duties on 13 May 1889 in an office built for him in Circle Park ("Second Quarterly Report," 1 July 1889, p. 1).

During the calènder quarter ending on 30 June 1889 a subsidiary contract was made with the Terre Haut Stone Works Co. to add two inches to the lower portion of the shaft. The Contractor delayed in beginning to lay stone, but promised to complete the work to the point provided in the contract in the present season ("Second Quarterly Report", 1 July 1889, p. 1).

The cornerstone was laid on 22 August 1889 by C.M. Travis,

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Commander Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic. Many other people assisted him, after which speeches were given and patriotic songs sung. President Benjamin Harrison, a Hoosier, was one of the speakers ("Report of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission", quarter ended 30 Sept. 1889, pp. 1-2). The cornerstone is about twelve feet above the level of the entrance platform.

By the third quarter of 1889 it was felt that the work had proceeded too slowly. The contractor held that he could not procure proper stone as rapidly as required. Much of the stone that was brought to the job site was rejected by the superintendent McIntosh. Work went more rapidly toward the end of the quarter, and the character of the work and the machinery used was satisfactory thus far. The Board feared that the contractor would not complete as much of the work before the close of the season as the contract required ("Report of the State Soldiers' ...", 30 Sept. 1889, p. 5). The Board was correct in its fears, for on 2 Nov. 1889 J.B. Lyne, the president of Terre Haute Stone Works Co., notified them to this effect. He could not reach the height of 75 feet above the ground as required by 1 Nov. 1889 because an intervening rift of poor stone in the quarry at Stinesville had caused a one-month delay in removing the broken stone and because of other minor hindrances. On 4 Dec. 1889 the Monument was covered in for the winter. Stone setting had stopped at a height of 57 feet. "Twelve additional bond stones, recommended by Deputy Architect Baumann during the summer, have been put in at an additional expense of \$335, and two inches have been added up to the cornice of the pedestal" at Architect Schmitz's request, an added expense of \$250. "The dowels in the pedestal have been increased from 4 x 4 x 4 to 6 x 6 x 12" for \$45 added expense ("Report of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission." quarter ended 31 Dec. 1889, pp. 1, 2, 3).

The sculptural decoration of the Monument now required the Board's attention. On 25 November 1889 advertisement and instructions and code for a sculptural competition for the crowning figure of the Monument and its pedestal were sent to the artists who had applied. The possibility of United States funds was investigated. Indiana senators and congressmen were written letters suggesting a \$60,000 Congressional appropriation to aid in embellishing the Monument with statuary ("Report of the State Soldiers'..." 31 Dec. 1889, pp. 1, 3, 4). By the end of the first calendar quarter of 1890 thirty-five sets of instructions for Sculptural Competition No. 1 had been sent to applicants and additional sets to Architect Schmitz in Berlin, who assured that a number of designs would be submitted from abroad. In the meantime, Schmitz in Berlin had supervised the sculpting of some other sculpture for the Monument, a model of a Medusa head for the pediments of the tablets on the north and south sides. The Board, however, rejected the model on the grounds that "this

being an American monument, the ornamentation should represent our age and civilization" ("Report of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission," quarter ended 31 Mar. 1890, pp. 1, 2).

On 1 May 1890 the submissions for the sculptural competition for the crowning figure and pedestal were due. Twenty sets of designs and proposals were received representing eighteen competitors -- two men had submitted two designs each -- ten of whom were from Berlin, Germany. Schmitz had been active. Two weeks later the designs were judged. George T. Brewster of Cleveland, Ohio, won the competition, and a contract for \$12,5000 was signed for making the figure and pedestal and for placing it on the Monument not later than 1 June 1891 ("Second Quarterly Report of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission", 10 July 1890).

Work on the principal structure of the Monument itself continued through the winter of 1889-1890 and with the coming of good weather stone accumulated at the site could be put into place, thus providing stone cutters with more room to work ("Report of the State Soldiers'..." 31 March 1890, p. 2). During the second quarter of 1890 the City Engineer's second survey showed that the Monument had settled 0.1 foot since 6 Nov. 1889. The president of the Board felt that work on the Monument was not proceeding quickly enough and urged the contractor to put more men on the job. ("Second Quarterly Report the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission", 10 July 1890, pp. 1, 3). During the third quarter of 1890 the same number of men were employed on the job as during the previous quarter. Work was stopped at the one-hundred foot height until "the great stones at the base should have been put in place. This part of the work was slowed because it was hard to get such large stones that would pass the rigid inspection to which they were subjected." It was also difficult to arrange railroad transportation for them owing to a scarcity of engines on the Monon Railroad. Thus the shaft could not be completed during the 1890 season. The large stones for the shaft had been received at the job site and cut so that the contractor could put them up quickly "as soon as the base stones have been set, so that the upper scaffolding can be erected." The Monument Commission complained to the railroad, and shipping became faster ("Third Quarterly Report. State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission, 1890", pp. 1, 2).

Some details of construction occupied the Board in July of 1890 when it resolved that the approaches to the Monument be made of "an approved quality of Indiana blue oolitic limestone, and that the stairway in the shaft be so constructed as to reserve space for an elevator." The President of the Board was authorized to procure proposals for building the stairway and for "erection of an iron-copper turret above the capital of the shaft ("Third Quarterly Report...1890", p. 4). It

appears that in the original design, the 284'6" shaft height (Rose, The Circle, p. 50) was to be ascended by the power of the unaided human leg. 16

Models and proposals for the second sculptural competition were advertised for on 11 September 1890. This competition involved the design for the three bronze astragals for the monument. The Board had received the attorney general's opinion that all contracts for work on the Monument required previous public competition ("Third Quarterly Report...1890", pp. 3-4). The chosen design of the Army astragal was that of Nicolaus Geiger, of Germany, George W. Brewster's designs were chosen for the Navy astragal, which is the next higher one, and for the top astragal bearing the dates of the Civil War (Rose, The Circle, p. 51).

George J. Langsdale, President of the Monument Commission, indulged in a bit of drama in 1891. In a letter dated 21 April, written presumably to the Governor, he agrees to continue in the office. He had resigned, apparently having felt that the quality of the Monument was being compromised because of "plea of a trifling economy." The Governor, Board of Commissioners, Monument Committee, G.A.R., and the public begged him not to do so, and he conceded to their wishes. It appears that the resignation was an effort to dramatize the need for funds. In 1891. the Legislature levied taxes which brought in \$123,000. With other appropriations, the Legislature's contribution at that point totaled \$160,000 (Rose, The Circle, p. 50).

In 1892, bids were received for the "War" and "Peace" groups at either side of the base of the shaft and for two others groups -- "In the Spirit of Abraham Lincoln" and "For Union and Constitution". There are no groups today corresponding to the latter two titles and the "War" and "Peace" groups were not executed at this time. Both of the two proposals for these four groups are in the State Archives. Only the second one is signed, and then only with the initials A.B., which may refer to American Bronze Co., Chicago (Two proposals for statuary, signed A.B., and dated June and July 1892). These entries seem to have been submitted in the sculpture competition advertised in Oct. 1891. The prize for "War" was awarded in Sept. 1892 to E. Hundrieser of Berlin and for "Peace" to Adrien Gaudes of Paris by a board of art experts consisting of Augustus St. Gaudens, Daniel C. French, and Charles B. Atwood. However, the Commissioners did not award contracts for the work because they were not satisfied that the work of these Europeans would be sufficiently American (Rose, The Circle, p. 53).

The construction of the stone shaft was completed in December 1892, and Frederick Baumann notified the Board that Terre Haut Stone Works Co. had applied for final payment and that

the work was "in very good acceptable condition." (Frederick Baumann, letter to Board of Commissioners, 6 Dec. 1892). 16-

Construction, after completion of the stone shaft:

On 7 Sept. 1893 the Victory statue was unveiled in place on top of the Monument and the name of the site was changed by legislative act to Monument Place, having been known since 1867 as Circle Park (Rose, The Circle, pp. 52).

Several proposals for the elevator were submitted; two were dated December 1891. The contract was given to Hale Electric Elevator Co. of Chicago. Their proposal was dated 7 Dec. 1891 and was in the amount of \$5750. (Proposals for elevator work by Hale Elevator Co., Ready's Elevator Works, Crane Elevator Co., American Passenger Elevator Co., and Premier Elevator Co.). On 29 May 1894 Hale billed the Monument Commission for the balance of their contract, acknowledging receipt of payments of \$2000 each on 19 Jan. and 29 March 1894 (Hale Elevator Co., Bill submitted to Board of Commissioners, 29 May 1894). On 4 April H.H. Parkhill, Conductor of the Elevator Cab, "assumed charge of the elevator" and opened it on to the public (H.H. Parkhill, letter to George J. Langsdale, 16 April 1894).

On 24 March 1894 the Eagle Electric Co. Billed for wiring the Monument for electric lights, etc., in the amount of \$475.20.

The lowest astragal band, "Army", designed by Nicolaus Geiger of Germany, was sent to be cast in 1894 after many changes by a committee of experts (Rose, The Circle, p. 51). The Navy astragal was cast by Bureau Brothers of Philadelphia in the same year for \$5348 (Bureau Brothers, Philadelphia, letter dated 23 July 1894).

The Board of Commissioners, which had been responsible for the construction of the Monument, was abolished by Legislative Act on 6 March 1895 and replaced by a Board of Regents, of which General Fred Knefler was president. In the fall of the same year the Army astragal was installed (Rose, The Circle, pp. 51, 52).

The "Quarterly Report", June 15, 1897, informs us concerning the improvement of Monument Plaza. A contract had been signed on 5 Jan. 1897 for this work with F.M. Snyder Co. for \$38,500 following Bruno Schmitz's design. In addition, Schmitz had been given a contract for the "War" and "Peace" groups, to be completed by 1 Aug. 1898 for \$54,000.

In a letter from the Auditor to the Board of Regents dated 5 Jan. 1897, the Board was informed that of the 1887 appropriation of \$30,000 he had paid \$198,541.

On 10 March 1897, F. M. Snyder Co. began work on Monument Plaza. The work included tunnels, subterranean chambers to operate the cascade fountains, a network of conduits for water pipes, wiring for electric lights at the corners of the large basins and for sprinklers for the lawns. Daggett and Co., architects, had been hired to prepare plans and specifications for Schmitz and to supervise construction, all for 5% of the contract price. Daggett and Co. also prepared plans and specifications for the public "lavatories and closets" on the west side of the crypt ("Quarterly Report," 15 June 1897). On 3 August 1897 bids were taken for repairs and alteration to the terrace at the base of the shaft and for the stairs leading to the terrace, but no contract was signed because funds were lacking ("Quarterly Report of Board of Regents to the Governor," 15 June 1899).

The "Quarterly Report," 15 Dec 1897, mentions that the improvements begun in March 1897 to restore the Monument and Monument Place surrounding it to the original design had been completed. Cement curbs surrounded the grass plots. Naval cannon, pointing skyward, had been set in concrete foundations to serve as posts. Iron bands had been placed around the cannon allowing the suspension of chains connecting the cannon. The cannon had been donated and delivered by the U. S. Navy from yards at Boston and Brooklyn. Four temporary poles for four electric lamps surmounting the foundation basins and four temporary poles on large pedestals bearing eight electric lamps were erected for \$1265. The lamps were of 2000 candlepower each. New generating machinery was needed; operation of the elevator was one of the reasons for the need. Revenue from the elevator and admission fees had come to \$5843 by 31 Oct. 1897.

On 17 May 1899, sealed bids were opened for four bronze candelabra, four additional bronze candelabra at the drinking fountains, twelve bronze animal heads for water spouts on the drinking fountains, two bronze or stone cascade groups (i.e., groups of figures above the two cascade fountains), and four figures of bronze or stone, representing soldiers of the period of the War of the Rebellion. A contract was awarded to Bruno Schmitz of Berlin for the eight candelabra and twelve buffalo heads, for \$33,000. Rudolph Schwartz, Indianapolis, was awarded a contract for four soldier figures in stone, for \$10,800 ("Quarterly Report of Board of Regents to the Governor", 15 June 1899, "Contracts Entered Into By Board of Regents from March 13, 1899.")

No contract was awarded at this time for the two cascade groups, but on 16 August 1899, a bid was submitted for casting of the two cascade groups and the four soldier figures all in bronze for \$88,000. The General Assembly had appropriated only \$100,000 for completion of the Monument so it was decided to execute the cascade groups in Indiana stone instead ("Quarterly Report of Board of Regents to the Governor, 15 June 1899"). On 3 Oct.

1899, a contract was given to Rudolf Schwartz for this work at \$8,500 each ("Contracts Entered into By Board of Regents from March 13, 1899.>").

Some minor work in the crypt was done in 1899 -- a brick and glass partition was built to separate the engine room from the rest of the crypt and a new stairway was built from the principal floor to the crypt. Edward R. Wolff of Irvington built the partition and Haugh, Noelke & Co. built the stairway ("Quarterly Report..." 15 June 1899; "Specifications," 8 June 1899; "Contracts Entered Into...from March 13, 1899").

A 1900 inventory of machinery in the Monument crypt mentions the Hale elevator with direct connected 20 horsepower Otis Electric Motor. In the same year the elevator carried 32,464 passengers ("Inventory of Machinery in Crypt of Monument", Dec. 1900; "Quarterly Report," 16 Dec. 1900).

Early in 1900 Bruno Schwarz contracted to furnish working models of bronze entrance doors ("Quarterly Report," 15 March 1900). Toward the end of the year the Board of Regents contracted with Schultz and Holdenfleiss of Berlin, Germany, for the two bronze main entrance doors, four bronze interior doors, twenty bronze window frames for the shaft, bronze tablets, and minor items. It was expected then that the Monument would be completed by Memorial Day of 1901. (Fred Knefler, President and Superintendent, Board of Regents, letter, 21 Jan. 1901).

By the end of the first quarter of 1901, the candelabra were being illuminated every night, the inscription of the Spanish-American War had been cut on the south side of the Monument, the work contracted by Schultz and Holdenfleiss was progressing well, the cascade group on the east side was completed, and that on the west was progressing rapidly ("Quarterly Report," 18 March 1901).

In the final report of the Board of Regents, Oct. 1901, the total cost of the monument is given as \$598,319, of which \$453,435 had been appropriated by the state and \$123,767 had been paid out of the general fund in the form of salaries and incidental expenses. Only \$21,117 had come from the Grand Army Fund. The Board recommended that natural gas for generation of power be replaced by another power source. Gas pressure had declined rapidly and was not enough properly to operate the electric light plant, the elevator, and the cascade fountains. The two large "hog" engines by Roth and Co., Indianapolis, proved to be failures and cost more in upkeep than all other machinery together. Two 50-horsepower engines were needed before April for the fountains. Electric or gasoline engines were recommended.

In recent rains leakage between the stones of the terrace

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indicates the need for filling the joints with cement and carefully leading some of them to keep the rain off machinery in the crypt.

Admission receipts for the year totaled two thirds of the sum allotted for maintenance. It was hoped that the Monument could be self-supportive ("Final Report on Construction and Completion of State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and Improvements on Monument Place," Oct. 1901).

On 15 May 1902 the Monument was formally dedicated (Rose, The Circle, pp. 56-57).

6. Alterations and additions: Changes and improvements for year ending 31 Oct. 1903. Two 75 horsepower Jenney electric motors were installed for the fountains and motors for elevator, pump and heating plant. A heating plant was installed and cables and wiring for the monument and arc lights. Electricity replaced natural gas as a power source (I.W. Walker, letter to the Governor, 2 Nov. 1903; "Final Report..." Oct. 1901).

The observation platform at the top was glassed in, date unknown. In 1918, a museum in the basement was opened. Flood lighting replaced the original lighting, with floodlights installed in the candelabra in 1928 (Rose, The Circle, pp. 57-58).

A new elevator was installed and was ready for use on 16 Nov. 1936. Otis Elevator Co. did the work (Lowell Nussbaum, "Elevator Is Old as Monument," Indianapolis Star, 18 June 1971, p. 27).

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Building:

Alexander Ralston had helped Pierre L'Enfant lay out the city of Washington and was employed on the surveying staff of the nation's capitol until 1794. Washington removed L'Enfant in 1792. Ralston was a Scotsman who had come to Salem, Indiana in 1814 and moved to Indianapolis in 1827 (Rose, The Circle, p. 2).

Federick Baumann, the deputy architect for the monument, is noted for his pioneering work in the structural engineering associated with the construction of tall buildings in Chicago. He was an expert in foundation design and in 1873 published a book, A Theory of Isolated Pier Foundations. In 1884 he published a pamphlet entitled Improvement in the Construction of Tall Buildings in which he advocated a system of "Concealed iron construction", the modern system of sky-scraper construction (Carl W. Condit, The Chicago School of Architecture, Chicago, 1964, pp. 36, 83).

William R. Ware of the board of experts founded two architec-

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tural schools, one at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston in 1865 and one later at Columbia University in New York (Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Architecture: Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, Baltimore, 1958, p. 144).

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views: Photographs of the Bruno Schmitz's design for the Monument, other designs submitted, and the Monument during several phases of construction are to be found in Ernestine Bradford Rose's The Circle. There is an excellent, clear photograph in Ernest P. Bicknell's Indianapolis Illustrated, Indianapolis, 1893, p. 6, taken from the southeast before the astragals and some of the other statuary were in place.

2. Primary and unpublished sources: All material listed under this heading is in the State Archives at the Indiana State Library and Historical Building in Indianapolis.

A.B. Two proposals for statuary, June & July 1892.

Auditor. Letter to Board of Regents, 5 Jan. 1897.

Bauer of Bauer & Hill, Chicago. Letter to J.F. Gookins, 28 July 1897.

Baumann, Frederick. Letter to Board of Commissioners, 6 Dec. 1892.

----- Letters to J.F. Gookins, 24 July 1887, 4 Sept. 1887, and 24 Mar. 1888.

Bureau Bros., Philadelphia. Letter, 23 July 1894.

Burnham & Root, architects, Chicago. Letter to J.F. Gookins, 27 Aug. 1887.

Cochrane, J.C. Letter to J.F. Gookins, 27 Sept. 1887.

Construction Contract with Terre Haut Stone Works Co. 30 Jan. 1889.

"Construction of Monument Act of 1887". Legal transcript

"Contracts Entered Into By Board of Regents from March 13, 1889."

Eagle Electric Co., 22 Circle St., Indianapolis. Bill to Board of Regents, 24 Mar. 1894.

"Final Report on Construction and Completion of State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and Improvements on

Monument Place," Oct. 1901.

Hale Electric Elevator Co., Chicago. Proposal, 7 Dec. 1891.

----- Bill submitted to Board of Commissioners, 29 May
1894.

Hunt, Richard M., architect, New York. Letter to J.F.
Gookins, 1 Aug. 1887.

Knefler, Fred, President and Superintendent, Board of
Regents. Letter, 21 Jan. 1901.

Langsdale, George J. Letter (presumably to the governor),
21 Apr. 1891.

McLaughlin, James W., architect, Cincinnati. Letter to J.F.
Gookins, 29 July 1887.

Office of Board of Commissioners of the State Soldiers' and
Sailors' Monument. "Instructions to Competitors".
July 1887.

Parkhill, H.H. Letter to George J. Langsdale, 16 Apr.
1894.

"Quarterly Report", 19 Jan. 1897.

----- 15 June 1897.

----- 15 Dec. 1897.

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August 1971

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument is located in the center of Indianapolis, and almost in the geographic center of the state. The site, a circle surrounded by a circular street, is one of the most significant nodal points in the city. The monument,

over 280'0" high, is centered on the major north-south axis of the city, Meridian Street. It is also centered on an east-west street, Market Street. Thus the Monument becomes not only the focal point of the city plan of the mile square area of Indianapolis that was laid out in 1821 by Alexander Rolston--it has become the symbol of the city. The designer of the monument was the architect, Bruno Schmitz (1858-1916). Construction was started in 1888 and essentially completed by 1901; however, it was not dedicated until 1902. The monument is without question one of the finest examples of monumental eclecticism built at the turn of the century.

2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Diameter of plaza surrounding the monument: c. 342'0". Diameter of terrace: c. 110'0". Height of monument to the apex of statue: 284'6". Number of bays: One. Number of stories: Basement, main floor and observation platform. Layout, shape: The tapered limestone shaft is set on a high circular terrace with broad flights of steps on the north and south. On the east and west sides of the terrace are large cascades over which water falls to pools at the finish grade level. The base of the monument has large groups of sculpted figures. The composition on the east face represents War, the west face Peace. The figures, cannon, etc., are of Indiana limestone. On the north and south elevations and positioned near the corners are large single sculpted figures; one represents the infantry rifleman, the other on the south elevation, a cavalry scout. On the north face are representations of an Artillery man and a sailor. On the apex of the base above the stone figures is an astragal in bronze representing the Army.

About midway up the limestone shaft just above the point where it begins to taper is a bronze astragal band emblematic of the Navy with ships bow sprits projecting at the corners on a diagonal axis. About two-thirds of the way up the shaft is a second bronze band with the dates 1861, 1865 on the four faces.

Near the apex of this is an enclosed observation platform. At the apex of the shaft is a bronze statue of Victory.

2. Foundations: Indiana limestone rock faced, units are about 2'0" x 2'0" x 4'0". Some blocks are large. Semi-circular brick arches carry the stair platforms.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Exterior walls are Indiana limestone.

4. Structural system, framing: Limestone rock faced in basement with concrete slabs. Framing at observation level is steel bulkheads, floors and ceiling.
5. Doorways and doors: Pairs of bronze doors are located on the north and south facades. The doors are deeply recessed into the limestone walls. The doors have single glass lights and a decorative panel. Between the decorative panel and the glass-light one door has a shield with the inscription E PLURIBUS UNUM and the other door has the State of Indiana Shield. Gates of iron strapwork simple geometric designs, are set about three feet in front of the bronze leaves.
6. Windows and shutters: None.
7. Roof: Shape, covering: Copper hipped roof. Cornice eaves: Copper boxed cornice. Dormers, cupolas, towers: A gilded Victory Statue about 38'0" high is set on top of the shaft.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

Basement: A square solid foundation with a hallway around the square core; then a lower polyfoil space four risers lower extending under the terraces and monumental stairways.

First floor: Square core with elevator shaft at center and a hallway around the core. A similar system of spatial elements is used at the enclosed observation level.

2. Stairways: Stairs in the basement are concrete 7 risers, single run and enclosed. Stairway from basement to first floor is an open iron stairway 2 run with 23 risers with a simple pipe railing. Open iron stairway from the first floor to the observation level consists of 32 flights, 324 risers constructed around the elevator core. Simple pipe railing.
3. Flooring: Basement: Concrete. First floor: Asphalt tile brown and cream checkerboard pattern on concrete slab. Observation platform: Steel deck.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Basement: Major walls are rock faced Indiana limestone painted pale green or light buff. Ceiling is the first floor concrete slab and painted grey. First floor: Walls are limestone. Ceiling is a modern installation of acoustical tile. Observation level: Metal walls and ceiling painted grey.
5. Doorways and doors: Basement and first floor: Wooden four panel two tiered units set in simple wooden frames.
6. Mechanical equipment: Heating: City steam system.

Lighting: Modern electrical system. Plumbing: Modern. 16-

D, Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The monument is located on a circular site. The north and south facades are on axis with Meridian Street, the major north-south street of the city. At the periphery of the circle are eight large (15'0" tall) bronze candelabra with decorative bases. On low pedestals positioned in the quadrants of the circle are bronze statues of Governor Morton, Governor Whitcomb, General Henry Harrison and General George Rogers Clark.

Prepared by David R. Hermansen
Ball State University
August 1970

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were prepared as part of a cooperative project in 1970 between the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana and the Historic American Buildings Survey. During this project, nine buildings in Indianapolis were measured and drawn, and sixteen more were recorded with professional photographs and written data.

The project was under the general direction of James C. Massey, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Measured drawings were prepared by student architects under the direction of Professor David R. Hermansen of Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. Professor Wesley Shank of Iowa State University prepared the historical data, and Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer, provided the photographic record. H. Roll McLaughlin, FAIA, State Preservation Coordinator, President of the Historic Landmarks Foundation, and member of the HABS Advisory Board, served as consultant throughout the project.